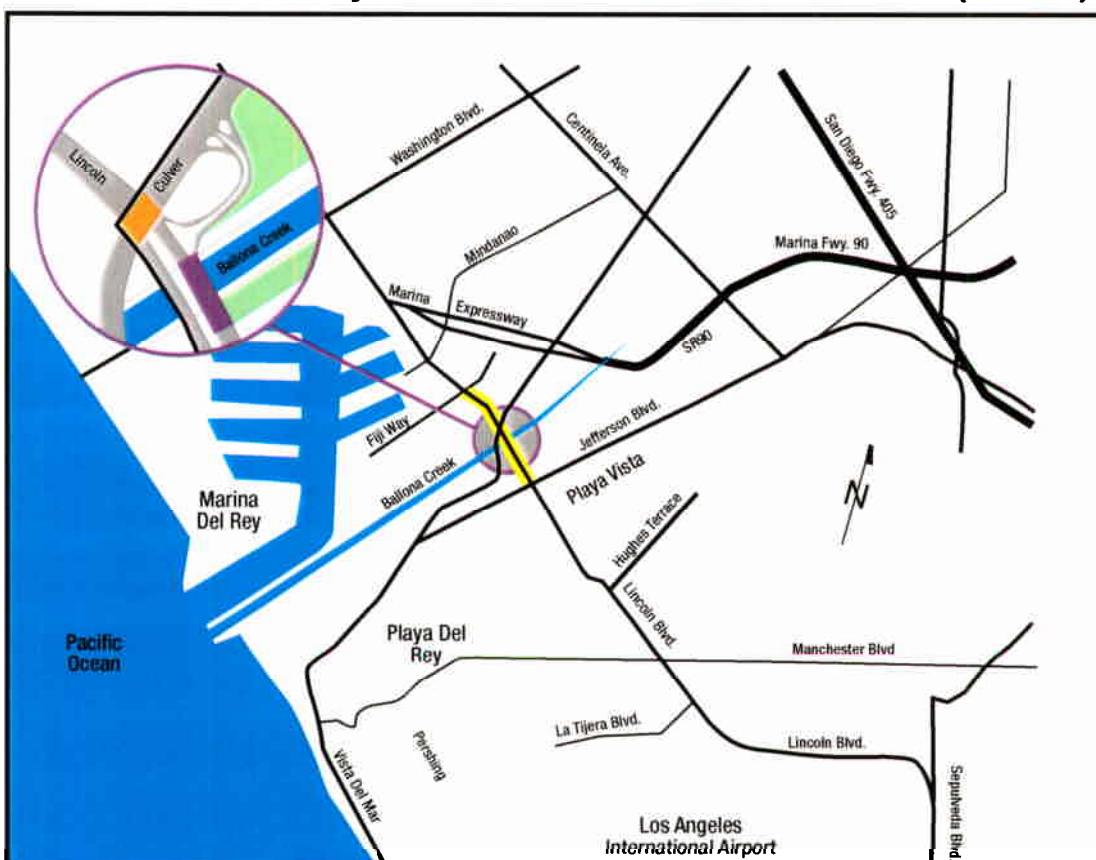


# Route 1 (Lincoln Boulevard)

**Widening from Jefferson Blvd. to Fiji Way,  
Construction of a New Bridge over Ballona Creek,  
and Replacement of the Culver Blvd. Overcrossing**

## Draft Initial Study/Environmental Assessment (IS/EA)



California Department of Transportation  
Los Angeles, District 7  
Office of Environmental Planning



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## **4-ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION**

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## **4. ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION**

### **4.1 *Introduction***

This Section, in conjunction with Sections 3 (AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT) and 5 (DISCUSSION OF ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION), constitutes the scientific and analytic basis for the comparison of effects presented in Section 2 (DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED PROJECT AND ALTERNATIVES) of this IS/EA. The Environmental Significance Checklist on the following pages was used to identify physical, biological, social and economic factors that might be affected by the proposed project.

To determine the environmental impacts of this project, a “California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Significance Checklist” was used. The checklist provides a format for identifying likely impacts, and assists the project evaluators in focusing on relevant issues of the project. Narrative discussions of impacts, and proposed mitigation measures are found following the checklist.

### **4.2 *List of Technical Studies/Reports***

The following studies or environmental documents have been prepared and incorporated by reference in this environmental evaluation. These reports are available for review at the Caltrans District 7 Office, 120 South Spring Street, Los Angeles, California.

- Negative Archaeological Survey Report, 15 November 1999
- Geotechnical Report, 20 May 1999
- Hazardous Waste Assessment, 21 March 2000
- Historic Architectural Survey Report, 15 August 2000
- Location Hydraulic Study, March 1999.
- Natural Environmental Study Report, 18 February 2000
- Noise Study Report, February 2000
- Physical Environmental Report, October 1999
- Traffic Study: Intersection Directional Volumes, 20 August 1999
- Visual Impact Analysis, 18 August 1999

### 4.3 Environmental Significance Checklist

The Environmental Significance Checklist is used to identify physical, biological, social and economic factors that might be impacted by the proposed project. In some cases, environmental factors listed in the checklist will not be affected because of the nature of the project. In other cases, background studies performed in connection with the proposed project clearly indicate that the project will not affect a particular item. A "NO" answer in the first column documents these determinations. A "YES" answer in the first column indicates that a particular factor will be affected by the project and is followed by a response in the second column as to whether the effect is significant (as defined by CEQA). In some cases, even though no significant impacts have been identified, an asterisk (\*) signifies that a discussion has been included to document specific findings. Where the checklist refers to a resource that is not involved or associated with the project in any way, we have determined that there are no project-imposed effects.

<b>PHYSICAL.</b> Will the proposal (either directly or indirectly):	YES or NO	If YES, is it significant? YES or NO
1. Appreciably change the topography or ground surface relief features?	No	
2. Destroy, cover, or modify any unique geologic or physical features?	No	
3. Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource or locally important mineral resource recovery site, that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	No	
4. Result in unstable earth surfaces or increase the exposure of people or property to geologic or seismic hazards?	No*	
5. Result in or be affected by soil erosion or siltation (whether by water or wind)?	No	
6. Result in the increased use of fuel or energy in large amounts or in a wasteful manner?	No	
7. Result in an increase in the rate of use of any natural resource?	No	
8. Result in the substantial depletion of any nonrenewable resource?	No	
9. Violate any published Federal, State, or local standards pertaining to hazardous waste, solid waste or litter control?	No*	
10. Modify the channel of a river or stream or the bed of the ocean or any bay, inlet or lake?	Yes	No
11. Encroach upon a floodplain or result in or be affected by floodwaters or tidal waves?	Yes	No
12. Adversely affect the quantity or quality of surface water, groundwater, or public water supply?	No*	
13. Result in the use of water in large amounts or in a wasteful manner?	No	
14. Affect wetlands or riparian vegetation?	No*	
15. Violate or be inconsistent with Federal, State or local water quality standards?	No*	
16. Result in changes in air movement, moisture, or temperature, or any climatic conditions?	No	
17. Result in an increase in air pollutant emissions, adverse effects on or deterioration of ambient air quality?	No*	
18. Results in the creation of objectionable odors?	No*	
19. Violate or be inconsistent with Federal, State, or local air standards or control plans?	No*	
20. Result in an increase in noise levels or vibration for adjoining areas?	Yes	No
21. Result in any Federal, State, or local noise criteria being equal or exceeded?	No*	
22. Produce new light, glare, or shadows?	No*	

## ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION

<b>BIOLOGICAL.</b> Will the proposal (either directly or indirectly):			
23.	Change in the diversity of species or <u>number of any species</u> of plants (including trees, shrubs, grass, micro flora, and aquatic plants)?	No*	
24.	Reduction of the numbers of or encroachment upon the critical habitat or any unique, threatened or endangered species of plants?	No*	
25.	Introduction of new species of plants into an area, or result in a barrier to the normal replenishment of existing species?	No	
26.	Reduction in acreage of any agricultural crop or commercial timber stands, or affects prime, unique, or other farmland of State or local importance?	No	
27.	Removal or deterioration of existing fish or wildlife habitat?	No*	
28.	Change in the diversity of species, or <u>numbers of any species</u> of animals (birds, land animals including reptiles, fish and shellfish, benthic organisms, insects or micro fauna)?	No*	
29.	Reduction of the numbers of or encroachment upon the critical habitat of any unique, threatened or endangered species of animals?	No*	
30.	Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan, natural community conservation plan or other approved local, regional or state habitat plan?	No	
31.	Introduction of new species of animals into an area, or result in a barrier to the migration of movement of animals?	No	
<b>SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC.</b> Will the proposal (directly or indirectly):			
32.	Cause disruption of orderly planned development?	No	
33.	Be inconsistent with any elements of adopted community plans, policies or goals?	No*	
34.	Be inconsistent with a Coastal Zone Management Plan?	No*	
35.	Affect the location, distribution, density, or growth rate of the human population of an area?	No*	
36.	Affect life-styles, or neighborhood character or stability?	No	
37.	Affect minority, elderly, handicapped, transit-dependent, or other specific interest groups?	No*	
38.	Divide or disrupt an established community?	No	
39.	Affect existing housing, require the acquisition of residential improvements or the displacement of people or create a demand for additional housing?	No	
40.	Affect employment, industry or commerce, or require the displacement of businesses or farms?	No	
41.	Affect property values or the local tax base?	No	
42.	Affect any community facilities (including medical, educational, scientific, recreational, or religious institutions, ceremonial sites or sacred shrines)?	No	
43.	Affect public utilities, or police, fire, emergency or other public services?	Yes	No
44.	Have substantial impact on existing transportation systems or alter present patterns of circulation or movement of people and/or goods?	Yes	No
45.	Generate additional traffic?	No*	
46.	Affect or be affected by existing parking facilities or result in demand of new parking?	No	
47.	Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	No	

48. Involve a substantial risk of an explosion or the release of hazardous substances in the event of an accident or otherwise adversely affect overall public safety?	No	
49. Result in alterations to waterborne, rail or air traffic?	No	
50. Support large commercial or residential development?	No	

51. Affect a significant archaeological or historic site, structure object, or building?	No*	
52. Affect wild or scenic rivers or natural landmarks?	No	
53. Affect any scenic resources or result in the obstruction of any scenic vista or view open to the public, or creation of an aesthetically offensive site open to public view?	No*	
54. Result in substantial impacts associated with construction activities (e.g., noise, dust, temporary drainage, traffic detours and temporary access, etc.)?	Yes	No
55. Result in the use of any publicly owned land from a park, recreation area, or wildlife and waterfowl refuge?	No	

**MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE**

56. Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number of, restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	No	
57. Does the project have the potential to achieve short-term, to the disadvantage of long-term, environmental goals? (A short-term impact on the environment is one which occurs in a relatively brief, definitive period of time while long-term impacts will endure well into the future.)	No	
58. Does the project have environmental effects which are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? Cumulatively considerable means that the incremental effects of an individual project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects probable future projects. It includes the effects of other projects which interact with this project and, together, are considerable.	No*	
59. Does the project have environmental effects that will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	No	